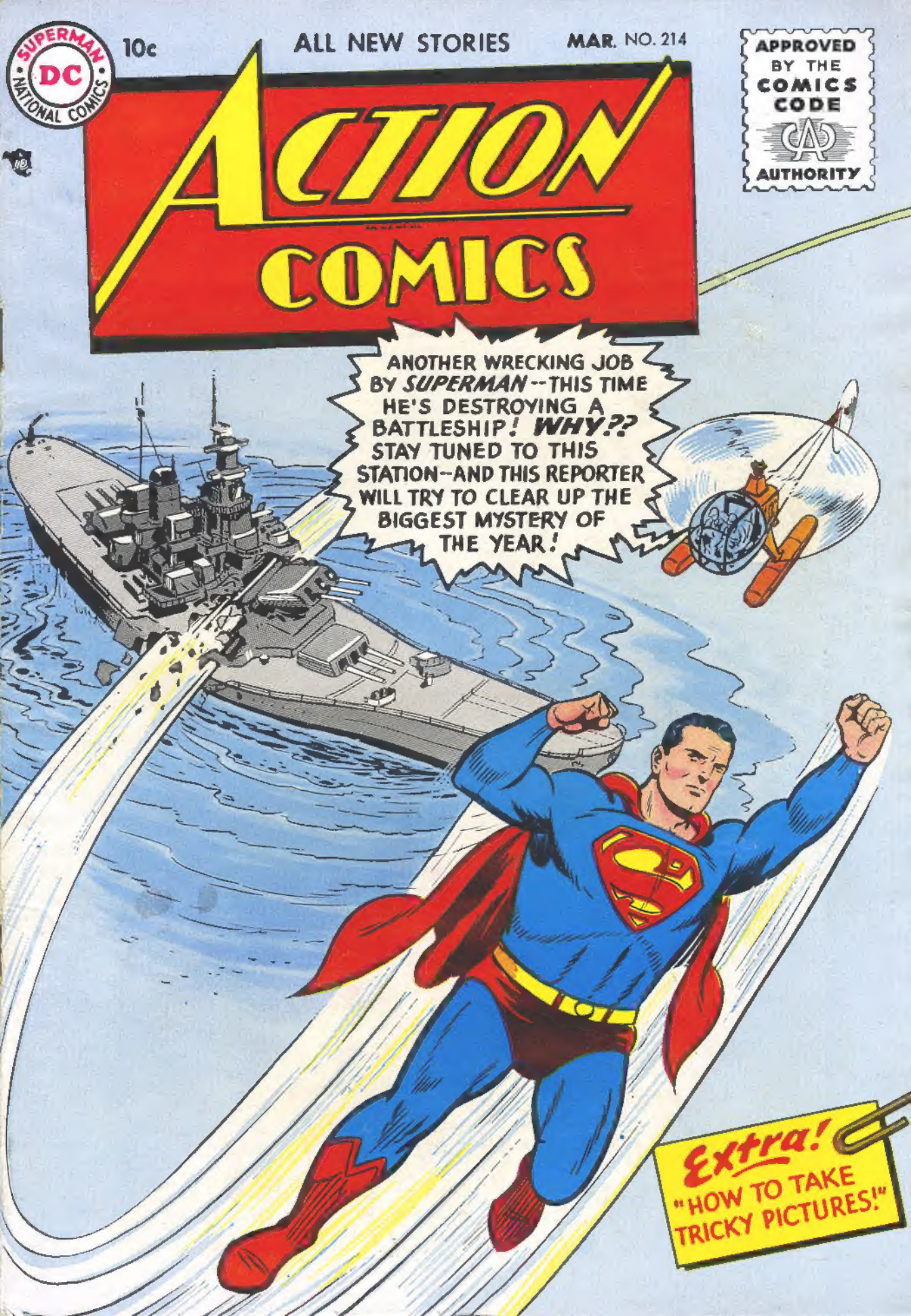
SUPERMAN • DC • NATIONAL COMICS

10c ALL NEW STORIES MAR. NO. 214

APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY

ACTION COMICS



Now, Buddy YOU GET ALL THESE 5 PICTURE PACKED COURSES **FREE** If you mail coupon NOW as I did!

HOW in 10 Minutes of Fun a Day YOU Can Become AN AMAZING NEW 3-D HE-MAN

Like We Did

Look at CLEVELAND'S HEROIC CHEST NOW

1 HOW TO MOLD A MIGHTY CHEST

May be LAST CHANCE before $1 price goes back!

Cleveland BEFORE →

← NOW

JIM NORMAN ◀ before NOW ▶ I gained 1000% in HE-MAN LOOKS POPULARITY and STRENGTH

2 This is one-time SKINNY Ken GRIMM AFTER mailing the coupon below

HOW TO MOLD A MIGHTY ARM

I gained 70 lbs. of MIGHTY MUSCLE Won a BIG SILVER TROPHY and made the football team. I was a 90 lb. Skeleton before, says Cleveland.

I changed myself from this ANEMIC SHRIMP → to this MUSCULAR HE-MAN

I added 6 inches to each ARM 10 inches to my CHEST says Ken Grimm.

3 MIGHTY BACK NOW

HOW TO MOLD A MIGHTY BACK

I GAINED 53 lbs. OF SHAPELY POWER-PACKED MUSCLES

I Was a Skinny, Scared, Girl-Shy Skeleton. Now My Body is the Best in the Neighborhood. Pal—Do as I Did—Mail The Coupon Below.

AFTER R. HIRSCH BEFORE →

4 HOW TO MOLD MIGHTY LEGS

HOW TO MOLD A MIGHTY GRIP By GEORGE F. JOWETT 5

NOW—YOU MAIL COUPON and GET ALL 5 COURSES FREE

Millions were sold at $1. PLUS BIG PHOTO BOOK of STRONG MEN which also tells how to WIN TROPHY and $100!

LOOK at ME and MY PALS! What a Pitiful lot of SKINNY WRECKS like YOU We were BEFORE We mailed coupon! Yes, PAL—NOW YOU MAIL THE COUPON BELOW and Get a NEW HE-MAN BODY for Your OLD SKELETON FRAME!

YOU CAN WIN $100.00 AND A BIG 15" TALL SILVER CUP LIKE WE DID!

NO! Friend you don't have to be SKINNY, WEAK or FLABBY any more—just mail the FREE coupon below as I did! But DO IT NOW—This may be YOUR LAST CHANCE!

LAST CHANCE - ALL FREE COUPON

5 FIVE COURSES 6 MUSCLE METER 7 PHOTO BOOK OF STRONG MEN

Dept. NC-63

Tell Me How To WIN $100, etc.

"Jowett Courses greatest in World for Building All-Around HE-MEN" —R. F. Kelley Physical Director

JOWETT INSTITUTE OF PHYSICAL TRAINING
220 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK 1, N. Y.

Dear George: Please mail to me FREE Jowett's Photo Book of Strong Men and a Muscle Meter, plus all 5 HE-MAN Building Courses: 1. How to Build a Mighty Chest. 2. How to Build a Mighty Arm. 3. How to Build a Mighty Grip. 4. How to Build a Mighty Back. 5. How to Build Mighty Legs—Now all in One Volume "How to become a Mighty HE-MAN." ENCLOSED FIND 10c FOR POSTAGE AND HANDLING (no C.O.D.'s).

NAME _____ AGE _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZONE _____ STATE _____

MAIL NOW! SAVES YOU YEARS and DOLLARS!

MAIL COUPON IN TIME FOR FREE OFFER AND PRIZES!

SUPERMAN

YOU ALL KNOW THAT **SUPERMAN** USES HIS STEEL-STRONG MUSCLES AND SUPER-KEEN WIT TO HELP OTHERS--YET, IN THIS STRANGE SEQUENCE OF EVENTS, HE USES HIS AMAZING ARRAY OF SUPER POWERS ONLY TO DESTROY! WHAT INCREDIBLE SECRET LIES BEHIND THESE STARTLING ACTIONS? YOU'LL FIND OUT WHEN YOU READ...

SUPERMAN, SUPER-DESTROYER

DESTROYED BY SUPERMAN

SUPERMAN SURE HAS A MILLION-DOLLAR PUNCH!

YES--BUT WHY IS HE USING IT TO DE-STROY VALUABLE PROPERTY WORTH MILLIONS?

ACTION COMICS, No. 214, March, 1956. Published monthly by NATIONAL COMICS PUBLICATIONS, INC., 2nd and DICKEY STREETS, SPARTA, ILL. Editorial and Executive offices, 480 Lexington Avenue, New York 17, N. Y. Whitney Ellsworth, Editor. ENTERED AS SECOND CLASS MATTER at the post office at Sparta, Illinois under the act of March 3, 1879. Yearly subscription in the U. S. $1.50 including postage. Foreign, $3.00 in American funds. For advertising rates address Richard A. Feldon & Co., 205 E. 42nd Street, New York 17, N. Y. ©1956 by National Comics Publications, Inc. All rights reserved under International and Pan-American Copyright Conventions. Except for those who have authorized use of their names, the stories, characters and incidents mentioned in this periodical are entirely imaginary and fictitious, and no identification with actual persons, living or dead, is intended or should be inferred.

Printed in U.S.A.

ONE DAY IN METROPOLIS, AN UNUSUALLY EXCITED TV BROADCASTER SPEAKS TO HIS UNSEEN AUDIENCE...

THERE SHE IS, FOLKS--THE BATTLESHIP THAT MILLIONAIRE EBENEEZER WALKER PURCHASED FROM THE GOVERNMENT AFTER THE LAST WAR AND CONVERTED INTO A PLEASURE CRAFT.

AND THERE ARE THE CROWDS--WAITING EAGERLY FOR **SUPERMAN**--WAITING FOR WHAT PROMISES TO BE THE MOST PUZZLING SPECTACLE OF THE YEAR!

MOMENTS LATER, A FAMILIAR BLUE-AND-RED CLAD FIGURE PLUMMETS DOWN FROM ABOVE...

HE'S HERE NOW, FOLKS--**SUPERMAN** HEADING STRAIGHT FOR THE BATTLESHIP! YOU'LL SEE IT ALL IN A SECOND!

SUPERMAN'S STEEL-STRONG FIST SUDDENLY LASHES OUT AS HE NEARS THE SHIP!

WHAM!

ONE GOOD BLOW SHOULD BE ENOUGH!

FROM STEM TO STERN, THE MIGHTY SHIP IS SHAKEN AS EVERY ATOM OF STEEL DISINTEGRATES UNDER THE IMPACT OF THAT INCREDIBLE BLOW!

A SPLIT SECOND LATER, AND WHAT WAS FORMERLY A FLOATING FORT IS NOW AN ALMOST SHAPELESS MASS OF TINY FRAGMENTS..

IT'S INCREDIBLE, FOLKS!, IN SECONDS **SUPERMAN** TRANSFORMED THAT MAGNIFICENT, ALMOST INVULNERABLE, VESSEL TO A MASS OF MICROSCOPIC DUST PARTICLES!

ONLY MOMENTS AFTERWARD...

EVERY TRACE OF THE SHIP IS GONE--AND ALL THAT REMAINS NOW IS THE UNANSWERABLE RIDDLE--WHY DID **SUPERMAN** DO IT?

ALL METROPOLIS IS ASKING THAT QUESTION--ESPECIALLY THOSE WHO KNOW **SUPERMAN** BEST, REPORTERS LOIS LANE AND JIMMY OLSEN...

I JUST DON'T GET IT, LOIS **SUPERMAN'S** ALWAYS HELPED TO CREATE THINGS! WHY SHOULD HE DESTROY THAT SHIP?

MAYBE CLARK KNOWS. PERRY WHITE ASSIGNED HIM TO INTERVIEW **SUPERMAN** AS SOON HE HEARD WHAT **SUPERMAN** WAS PLANNING TO DO!

AT THAT VERY MOMENT, IN A SECLUDED PART OF METROPOLIS PARK, THE "INTERVIEW" PERRY ORDERED TAKES PLACE AS **SUPERMAN** CHANGES TO HIS EVERYDAY IDENTITY AS CLARK KENT...

I GUESS EVERYONE'S WAITING FOR CLARK'S INSIDE STORY ON WHY **SUPERMAN** SMASHED THAT SHIP--AND AS CLARK, I CERTAINLY CAN GIVE THEM AN INSIDE STORY ON **SUPERMAN!** HOWEVER...

...THE TROUBLE IS, EVEN **I** CAN'T EXPLAIN **SUPERMAN'S** REASON FOR DESTROYING THAT VESSEL!

A LITTLE LATER, IN THE OFFICE OF THE **DAILY PLANET**...

WELL, CLARK--WHAT GIVES? WE'RE HOLDING THE PRESSES FOR YOUR INTERVIEW!

I'LL TELL YOU EVERYTHING I KNOW--BUT I'M AFRAID IT WILL STILL BE A MYSTERY. I GUESS YOU'VE ALL HEARD OF EBENEEZER WALKER--THE MILLIONAIRE WHO OWNED THAT SHIP?

WHO HASN'T HEARD OF HIS ECCENTRIC BEHAVIOR? REMEMBER THE TIME HE WAS INTERESTED IN ASTRONOMY--AND PREDICTED A COMET WOULD SMASH THE WORLD--TILL IT WAS FOUND OUT THAT THE "COMET" WAS A FLAW IN THE MILLION-DOLLAR TELESCOPE HE'D BUILT HIMSELF!

HA-HA--AND HOW ABOUT THE TIME HE PREDICTED ANOTHER FLOOD AND SPENT THREE MILLION BUILDING AN ARK WITH ALL KINDS OF GADGETS-- AND WE HAD THE LONGEST DRY SPELL IN THE HISTORY OF METROPOLIS?

THAT'S WALKER, ALL RIGHT. WELL, YESTERDAY HE CONTACTED **SUPERMAN**, AND...

"...INVITED HIM TO HIS HOUSE ON AN URGENT MATTER!"

I'M MAKING OUT MY WILL, **SUPERMAN**, AND I'M THINKING OF LEAVING ONE MILLION DOLLARS TO THE METROPOLIS YOUTH CENTER!

A SPLENDID IDEA! THE CENTER MOLDS THE LIVES OF FUTURE CITIZENS AND PREVENTS JUVENILE DELINQUENCY!

I THOUGHT YOU'D LIKE THE IDEA--AND I'LL MAKE THE DONATION--IF YOU SIGN THIS AGREEMENT TO DO A FEW CHORES FOR ME WITHIN THE NEXT 48 HOURS. NOTHING ILLEGAL--NOTHING HARMFUL TO ANYONE--AND NOTHING FROM WHICH I'LL MAKE A PERSONAL GAIN.

WHAT KIND OF CHORES?

THEY'RE LISTED IN THIS ENVELOPE--WHICH IS LINED WITH LEAD SO YOU CAN'T SEE THROUGH WITH YOUR X-RAY VISION. WELL--WHAT DO YOU SAY?

HMM...ORDINARILY I'D NEVER AGREE--BUT THE CENTER COULD MAKE MAGNIFICENT USE OF THAT MONEY!

ONE MILLION TO THE YOUTH CENTER COULD SAVE THOUSANDS OF CAREERS--SO-- **SUPERMAN** SIGNED--AND DIDN'T KNOW WHAT CHORES HE HAD AGREED TO PERFORM TILL AFTERWARD!

BUT--WHEN HE SAW THAT THE FIRST CHORE ASKED HIM TO DESTROY A $5,000,000 BATTLESHIP--DIDN'T HE ASK THEN?

"SURE! BUT THE MOMENT HE DID..."

ALL RIGHT. NOW I'LL TELL TELL YOU. YOU SEE, I... AAH!

HE--HE'S HAD A STROKE! I--I'LL CALL A DOCTOR!

NO! I'LL GET ONE AND BRING HIM HERE. THAT WILL BE FASTER!

"A LITTLE LATER, AFTER **SUPERMAN** HAD RETURNED WITH THE DOCTOR..."

HE'S HAD THESE ATTACKS BEFORE... BROUGHT ON BY EXTREME EXCITEMENT. NOTHING VERY SERIOUS--BUT HE'S LIABLE TO REMAIN UNCONSCIOUS FOR DAYS!

HMM...TOO BAD. I GUESS I'LL HAVE TO CARRY OUT HIS WISHES WITHOUT KNOWING WHY!

THAT CERTAINLY PUTS **SUPERMAN** IN A SPOT--HAVING TO PERFORM DEEDS OF SENSELESS DESTRUCTION--WITHOUT KNOWING THE REASON WHY!

IT DOESN'T MAKE HIM HAPPY--BUT WHAT ELSE CAN HE DO?

SHORTLY AFTERWARD, WHEN CLARK HAS ONCE AGAIN CHANGED TO HIS SUPER IDENTITY...

HE MUST HAVE BEEN REALLY EXCITED WHEN HE WROTE THIS LIST. THE LAST ITEM IS SO SMUDGED WITH INK THAT IT'S UNREADABLE EVEN TO ME--WITH MY MICROSCOPIC VISION. WELL--THAT'LL MAKE **ONE LESS** DISAGREEABLE CHORE FOR ME TO PERFORM!

1
2
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THAT'S WHAT YOU THINK **NOW, SUPERMAN**--BUT YOU'LL CERTAINLY CHANGE YOUR MIND **LATER!**

PRESENTLY, AS **SUPERMAN** PREPARES TO CARRY OUT HIS SECOND CHORE...

ALL OUT. LAST CALL!

IT'S A PERFECTLY GOOD BUILDING--WHY ARE THEY EVACUATING IT?

HAVEN'T YOU HEARD? **SUPERMAN'S** GOING TO RIP IT DOWN! HE'S GOING TO RUIN 50 MILLION DOLLARS' WORTH OF REAL ESTATE--AND NO ONE KNOWS WHY!

THE SAME PUZZLE WHICH BAFFLES ALL METROPOLIS ALSO WORRIES **SUPERMAN**...

IT'S ALMOST A CRIME TO DESTROY IT. I'VE EXAMINED IT FROM EVERY POSSIBLE ANGLE--AND THERE ISN'T A THING WRONG WITH IT! WELL... I GUESS IT'S USELESS TO PONDER. I'LL JUST HAVE TO DO AS I AGREED!

IT'S CEMENTED TO THE BUILDINGS ON EITHER SIDE! HOW CAN I POSSIBLY GET IT FREE WITHOUT INJURING THE OTHER BUILDINGS?

AFTER LONG MOMENTS OF THOUGHT...

TO FULFILL THIS CHORE, I'LL HAVE TO RANGE THE WORLD, USING MY X-RAY VISION, SEEKING FOR THE MOST FABULOUS TREASURE THAT EXISTS!

SOON... LEAGUES AWAY IN THE PLAINS OF DISTANT AFRICA...

THERE IT IS--PROBABLY THE BIGGEST DIAMOND ON EARTH! THERE'S NO KEENER, SHARPER, STRONGER CUTTING EDGE THAN DIAMOND--AND IT WILL MAKE JUST THE PERFECT TOOL FOR THE JOB!

MOMENTS LATER...

I'LL FASHION IT INTO A BLADE AND TRANSFORM IT INTO THE KEENEST KNIFE IN THE WORLD!

PRESENTLY...

JUST AS EASY AS SLICING BUTTER! I CAN NOW DETACH THIS BUILDING FROM THOSE ADJACENT TO IT WITHOUT HARMING THE OTHERS IN THE LEAST, THEN I'LL LOOSEN THE FOUNDATION!

...AND PICK THIS BUILDING UP WITHOUT SO MUCH AS TOUCHING THE OTHERS! NOW TO FLY IT AWAY TO A DESOLATE AREA!

SHORTLY AFTERWARD...

WHAMMMP!

ACCORDING TO MY AGREEMENT, I MUST SMASH THE BUILDING COMPLETELY AND REDUCE IT TO DUST! WELL--HERE--GOES--$50,000,000 WORTH OF REAL ESTATE PULVERIZED INTO NOTHING!

THAT'S DONE--BUT I'M NOT GLAD! IT JUST DOESN'T MAKE SENSE! EBENEEZER IS AN ECCENTRIC--YET EXCEPT FOR HIS HOBBIES, HE'S NEVER WASTED A PENNY! WHY SHOULD A MAN WHO'S SPENT HIS LIFE AMASSING A FORTUNE, THROW IT AWAY?

HE BOUGHT THAT BUILDING FOR MILLIONS OF DOLLARS JUST A FEW DAYS BEFORE HE GOT ME TO SIGN THAT AGREEMENT. WHY DID HE PURCHASE IT--THEN ASK ME TO DESTROY WHAT HE BOUGHT!

IT'S HARD FOR ME TO CARRY OUT SUCH DESTRUCTIVE DEEDS WITHOUT KNOWING WHY. I'LL DROP THIS DIAMOND KNIFE WHERE NO ONE CAN FIND IT AND PROFIT FROM, THEN SEE IF I CAN DISCOVER A CLUE AT EBENEEZER'S HOME!

SOON, AS **SUPERMAN** QUESTIONS THE SERVANTS AT EBENEEZER'S ESTATE...

NOTHING I CAN TELL YOU--EXCEPT THAT JUST AS HE USED TO SPEND TIME WITH TELESCOPES AND WEATHER IMPLEMENTS, HE'S BEEN SPENDING HOURS A DAY FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS WITH THAT CONTRAPTION. IT LOOKS LIKE AN OVERGROWN RADIO SET, YET..

GLEEG VROOR SLKLI...

IT GETS ONLY THAT ONE STATION--IN SOME FOREIGN LANGUAGE. HE'D SPEND HOURS LISTENING, PUZZLING... WRITING THINGS OUT!

HMM... ANYONE WOULD PUZZLE OVER THAT JARGON! I WONDER JUST WHAT PART OF THE WORLD IT COMES FROM?

I'VE COMBED EVERY SQUARE INCH OF THE PLACE WITH X-RAY VISION--AND NOT A CLUE EXCEPT THAT RADIO--AND YET THAT'S NOT MUCH OF A CLUE. MAYBE IF I FIND OUT WHERE THAT LANGUAGE IS SPOKEN... BUT FIRST I MUST COMPLETE MORE OF HIS STRANGE CHORES!

SO, A LITTLE LATER, AS A STARTLED WORLD FOLLOWS SUPERMAN'S ACTIVITIES...

PLEASE LEAVE, EVERYONE! IF I'M TO SHATTER THAT GLASS PALACE, I DAREN'T HAVE ANYONE WITHIN TWENTY MILES!

ONE OF THE MOST BEAUTIFUL BUILDINGS IN THE WORLD! WHY MUST SUPERMAN DESTROY IT?

THE MAN OF STEEL WOULD LIKE THAT QUESTION ANSWERED--YET HE MUST GO AHEAD WITHOUT AN ANSWER!

IF I SMASH IT, GLASS FRAGMENTS MAY FLY FOR MILES, AND HARM SOMEONE LATER, EVEN THOUGH I'VE CLEARED THE AREA NOW. I'D BETTER USE THIS METAL ORE I BORROWED FROM A NEARBY FOUNDRY TO FASHION A HUGE GONG--AND A METAL HAMMER!

MOMENTS LATER...

SINCE I EVACUATED EVERY LIVING PERSON FOR MILES AROUND, THIS EAR-SHATTERING BLOW WON'T HARM ANYONE, BUT...

BOINNNNGG!

...THE VIBRATIONS WILL SHATTER THE GLASS AND REDUCE IT TO POWDERY FRAGMENTS!

IT TOOK COUNTLESS PEOPLE MANY YEARS TO ERECT THAT MAGNIFICENT BUILDING WHICH I DESTROYED IN MOMENTS. I'M NOT HARMING ANYONE--SINCE EBENEEZER BOUGHT ALL THE THINGS HE'S HAVING ME DESTROY--YET I FEEL THAT WHAT I'M DOING IS WRONG!

YET--SUPERMAN MUST CONTINUE KEEPING HIS AGREEMENT! SO, A LITTLE LATER, ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF METROPOLIS...

NEXT CHORE--I MUST TURN THAT STRUCTURE INTO DUST! IT CONTAINS ENOUGH EXPLOSIVE TO ROCK THE COUNTRYSIDE! I DAREN'T SMASH IT HERE--AND I DAREN'T MOVE IT--LEST JARRING THE BUILDING DETONATE SOME OF THE EXPLOSIVES! I'LL HAVE TO GIVE THIS ONE REAL THOUGHT!

ANDERSEN EXPLOSIVE PLANT

DANGER

YES--IT'S A SUPER PROBLEM--BUT--NOT TOO TOUGH FOR A SUPER BRAIN! MOMENTS LATER...

I'LL HAVE TO GO UNDERGROUND AGAIN FOR THIS ONE! TRANSFORMED TO A NUMAN DRILL, I CAN DIG THE DEEPEST RABBIT BURROW IN THE WORLD!

SOON..

NOW I'LL BROADEN IT, WORKING MY WAY UPWARD SO THAT THE ENTIRE PLANT WILL TUMBLE INTO THIS PIT!

PRESENTLY...**SUPERMAN** WATCHES THE BUILDING PLUMMET DOWNWARD, AND...

WHOOM

THE EXPLOSIVES WILL BLOW THE FACTORY TO FRAGMENTS AND THE DEBRIS OF THE EXPLOSION WILL SEAL UP THE BURROW! NOW, MAYBE I HAVE TIME BEFORE THE NEXT CHORE TO DO A LITTLE SUPER DETECTIVE WORK ON WHY EBENEEZER WANTS SO MUCH DESTRUCTION!

AND, WHILE **SUPERMAN** TRIES TO DISCOVER THE MOTIVE BEHIND HIS OWN STRANGE DEEDS...

ANY OF THE THINGS HE DESTROYED WAS WORTH MORE THAN THE DONATION HE'S MAKING TO THE YOUTH FUND! WHAT CAN POSSIBLY BE THAT SKINFLINT'S MOTIVE?

I DON'T KNOW--BUT EVERYONE IN THE WORLD IS WAITING FOR HIM TO AWAKE FROM THAT COMA!

DAILY PLANET

SUPERMAN ON SMASHING SPREE! $90,000,000 TURNED TO DUST AS SUPERMAN KEEPS INCREDIBLE AGREEMENT!

EVERYONE--EXCEPT **SUPERMAN**--WHO'S TRYING TO FIND OUT WITHOUT EBENEEZER!

I CAN'T UNDERSTAND IT! I'VE LISTENED IN ON EVERY LANGUAGE IN THE WORLD--AND NONE BEARS THE SLIGHTEST RESEMBLANCE TO WHAT I HEARD OVER EBENEEZER'S RADIO!

GLEEG SLRR YEE...

IT WASN'T STATIC--IT WAS A VOICE SPEAKING... I'M SURE! YET--WHERE IN THE WORLD.. WAIT! THAT'S AN IDEA!

IF NOT IN THE WORLD, MAYBE OUT OF IT! LIVING BEINGS ON OTHER PLANETS MUST SPEAK, AND MAYBE EBENEEZER'S WEIRD RADIO PICKED UP THEIR CONVERSATION!

SOON, AFTER A STRANGE GAME OF HIDE AND SEEK IN OUTER SPACE .. THIS PLANET—IN THE FAR REACHES OF THE SOLAR SYSTEM—WHOSE EXISTENCE WAS NEVER SUSPECTED BY ASTRONOMERS, ITS PEOPLE SPEAK THAT LANGUAGE! HMM... IT TOOK EBENEEZER FIVE YEARS TO DECODE THEIR TONGUE, BUT.

VLEEK—SPLENK... GBAR.

IF I TUNE IN ON THEIR SCHOOLS WITH MY X-RAY VISION AND SUPER HEARING...

...THEN ON THEIR MUSEUMS AND LIBRARIES, I SHOULD BE ABLE TO MASTER THEIR LANGUAGE IN FIVE MINUTES—CONSIDERING THE FACT THAT I HAVE A SUPER MEMORY! THEN, I CAN LISTEN IN ON CONVERSATIONS ALL OVER THEIR PLANET!

PRESENTLY, AFTER SUPERMAN LISTENS TO DOZENS OF CONVERSATIONS..

MILITARY LEADERS—DISCUSSING PLANS TO CONQUER EARTH! EACH BUILDING I DESTROYED WAS SUBJECTED TO RAYS WHICH MADE NO VISIBLE CHANGE. YET, WHEN A BUTTON IS PRESSED HERE IN A FEW HOURS, EACH WOULD HAVE BECOME AN ATOMIC BOMB CAPABLE OF DESTROYING HUGE AREAS!

I MUST SMASH THOSE OTHER STRUCTURES AT ONCE—BUT HOW CAN I FIND THAT TENTH BUILDING? I CAN'T READ EBENEEZER'S MIND—YET I MUST DISCOVER WHICH OF ALL THE MILLIONS OF BUILDINGS ON EARTH HAS BEEN INVISIBLY TREATED BY THESE PEOPLE SO THAT IT WILL BLOW UP!

ON THE LONG TRIP HOME, **SUPERMAN'S** MIND BUSILY MULLS OVER THE BAFFLING PROBLEM... AND THEN...

WHAT A FOOL I'VE BEEN! HOW COULD THAT ONE SIMPLE FACT HAVE ESCAPED ME? IT WILL TAKE JUST SECONDS TO FIND OUT WHAT THAT TENTH BUILDING IS!

READER, NOW YOU KNOW ALL THE FACTS **SUPERMAN** DOES! CAN YOU FIGURE OUT HOW HE WILL DISCOVER HIS TENTH CHORE?

A LITTLE LATER...

NOW THAT I KNOW WHY EBENEEZER WANTED THE BUILDINGS ON HIS LIST TO BE SMASHED TO PARTICLES, I DON'T HAVE TO DESTROY THEM COMPLETELY. I CAN JUST HURL THIS REPLICA SPHINX INTO SPACE WHERE IT WILL EXPLODE HARMLESSLY AND DO THE SAME TO THE OTHERS!

SOON, AFTER **SUPERMAN** HAS DISPOSED OF ALL BUT TWO OF THE STRUCTURES IN SIMILAR FASHION...

HOWEVER, I'M GOING TO GIVE THIS AMUSEMENT PARK, THE NINTH ON EBENEEZER'S LIST, A SPECIAL TREATMENT!

INSTEAD OF HURLING IT INTO SPACE, I'LL TAKE IT ON A LITTLE JOURNEY!

MOMENTS AFTERWARD...

I'LL THROW IT IN AN ARC SO IT WILL ROTATE LIKE A LITTLE MOON AROUND THAT WAR-LIKE PLANET! WHEN THEY PRESS THAT BUTTON, NOTHING WILL HAPPEN ON **EARTH**, BUT THIS WILL EXPLODE NEAR THEM! THAT WILL WARN THEM NEVER AGAIN TO PLAN HARM AGAINST US!

SOON, BACK ON EARTH...

NO TIME FOR QUESTIONS NOW. JUST GET EVERYONE OUT OF HERE AS FAST AS POSSIBLE. I'LL TAKE SOME-- AND YOU ROUND UP THE OTHERS.

B-BUT I--OH--ALL RIGHT. I GUESS YOU KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING!

WHEN THE **PLANET** BUILDING IS CLEARED...

SUPERMAN--COME BACK! THE **PLANET**-- WH-WHAT ARE YOU DOING WITH IT?

LATER, WHEN **SUPERMAN** HAS EXPLAINED TO PERRY AND THE OTHERS...

HMM... SO IN DESTROYING THOSE BUILDINGS, EBENEEZER WAS SAVING THE WORLD. BUT HOW-- HOW DID YOU GUESS THE **PLANET** WAS THE LAST ONE?

EASY, I... ER... WHAT? I'LL BE RIGHT THERE!

SUPERMAN! EBENEEZER-- HE'S COME OUT OF HIS COMA AND IS CALLING FOR YOU!

ONLY MOMENTS AFTER, AS **SUPERMAN** RACES TO EBENEEZER'S HOME...

THAT LAST CHORE--IT WAS BLURRED THEY TOLD ME--HOW DID YOU GUESS IT?

THAT WAS EASY. WHEN I FOUND OUT WHY YOU WANTED THOSE BUILDINGS SMASHED, I USED MY X-RAY VISION TO EXAMINE OFFICIAL RECORDS OF ALL REAL ESTATE SALES FOR THE LAST FEW DAYS, AND THE **PLANET** BUILDING WAS THE ONLY ONE YOU'D BOUGHT THAT WASN'T ON YOUR LIST!

I'M SORRY I TRICKED YOU-- BUT WHEN I LEARNED THEIR ORIGINAL PLAN BY DECODING ONE OF THEIR BROADCASTS, I KNEW NO ONE WOULD BELIEVE ME AFTER THE LAST FALSE PREDICTIONS I'D MADE. I HAD TO GET THE BUILDINGS DESTROYED, AND..

YOU DID A WONDERFUL THING, SIR. THE WHOLE WORLD IS INDEBTED TO YOU!

LATER, THAT DAY, AS **SUPERMAN** REBUILDS THE **DAILY PLANET** BUILDING...

THAT'S WHAT I LIKE TO SEE **SUPERMAN** DO--CREATE INSTEAD OF DESTROY!

TRUE--BUT YOU MUST REMEMBER IF **SUPERMAN** HADN'T DESTROYED A FEW STRUCTURES--ALL MIGHT HAVE BEEN DEVASTATED! HE'D NEVER DESTROY--EXCEPT TO HELP!

THE END

LITTLE PETE

STRIKE ONE!

STRIKE TWO!

STRIKE THREE- YOU'RE OUT!

WHAT'S THE IDEA NOT SWINGING AT THE BALL?

I'M NOT TAKING ANY CHANCES! LAST WEEK I HIT A HOME-RUN THROUGH MR. SCHULTZ'S WINDOW- AND I GOTTA PAY FOR IT OUT OF MY ALLOWANCE!

BUTCHER

THE END

ADVERTISEMENT

FEARLESS FOSDICK

IF YOU SE CAN LICK OUR-CHUCKIE!- NEW MEMBER, TH' WHOLE GANG WILL SURRENDER FOSDICK!"

CRIME A.C.

POLICE DEPT.

OUCH!?- MY SHREWD LEGAL SENSE TELLS ME THIS FIGHT IS-GULP!?-NOT ENTIRELY FAIR!?- BUT--

-NEAT HAIR, (WITH WILDROOT CREAM-OIL) GIVES ME CONFIDENCE!!

WILDROOT CREAM-OIL

CONTAINS NATURES LANOLIN."-RELIEVES DRYNESS"-REMOVES LOOSE-UGH!" DANDRUFF!?- GET WILDROOT CREAM-OIL CHARLIE!?

BUT, DAT WOULD BE ILLEGAL- MY NAME IS ARTHUR!

ONLY CREAM-OIL GROOMS AND CONDITIONS HAIR THE NORMAL WAY

Binky in "Healthy Teeth for You and Your Pet!"

GEE, DOC, THANKS. I'M GLAD BINKY TALKED ME INTO COMING HERE. SPORT SURE WAS MISERABLE WITH THAT BAD TOOTH!

YOU'RE WELCOME, ALLERGY. BUT HELP IN AN EMERGENCY IS ONLY HALF MY JOB. HERE ARE SOME RULES TO PREVENT FUTURE TROUBLE...

DR. R. JO VETER NA

"THE RULES FOR HEALTHY TEETH FOR SPORT ARE ABOUT THE SAME AS FOR YOUR OWN. FIRST, EAT A BALANCED DIET."

BALANCED MEALS FOR GROWING YOUNGSTERS

BALANCED DIETS FOR DOGS

"SECOND, BRUSH YOUR TEETH -- AND SWAB SPORT'S - REGULARLY, AND PROPERLY."

DAD

MOTHER

LUCY

BINKY

ALLERGY

SPORT

"THIRD, JUST AS YOU GO TO YOUR DENTIST TWICE A YEAR TO HAVE YOUR TEETH CLEANED, BRING SPORT TO ME TO HAVE HIS TEETH SCRAPED CLEAN OF TARTAR."

"AND LAST, REMEMBER HEALTHY TEETH NEED EXERCISE."

Wuk

THAT'S GOOD ADVICE, KIDS. GOOD TEETH AND GOOD HEALTH AID EACH OTHER. HELP YOURSELF AND YOUR PET TO STAY HEALTHY!

PUBLISHED AS A PUBLIC SERVICE IN COOPERATION WITH THE NATIONAL SOCIAL WELFARE ASSEMBLY, COORDINATING ORGANIZATION FOR NATIONAL HEALTH, WELFARE AND RECREATION AGENCIES OF THE U. S.

POSSESSION OF THE STRANGE DRUM IDOL BY THE VILLAGERS SPELLED THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN LIFE AND DEATH... BUT WOULD CONGO BILL BE ABLE TO DELIVER THE WEIRD SYMBOL TO THE VILLAGE BEFORE THE ENEMY COULD BEGIN ITS ATTACK? A WHOLE JUNGLE WATCHED AND WAITED FOR THE ANSWER, AS THE ACE ADVENTURER SET FORTH TO RETRIEVE...

CONGO BILL with JANU The Jungle Boy

THE INVINCIBLE IDOL

MAYBE THIS IS WHAT NATIVES MEAN WHEN THEY SAY DRUM IDOL GIVES PROTECTION!

THERE ARE MANY WAYS OF SUMMONING CONGO BILL, THE FAMED JUNGLE ADVENTURER--AND ONE OF THEM IS...

SMOKE SIGNALS! SOMEONE NEED YOUR HELP, CONGO BILL!

HMM... THEY SEEM TO BE COMING FROM SHAMBURU! WE'D BETTER GET THERE ON THE DOUBLE, JANU!

AND WHILE DRUM BEATS ADD URGENCY TO THE JUNGLE S.O.S. ...

SOUNDS LIKE REAL TROUBLE, JANU... HOPE WE DON'T ARRIVE TOO LATE!

SHORTLY AFTER, AS CONGO BILL FACES HIS OLD FRIEND, KYULU, HEADMAN OF S-A'BURU VILLAGE...

GLAD YOU COME SO SOON, CONGO BILL! ENEMY TRIBES HAVE SENT OUT CALL FOR WARRIORS TO ATTACK OUR VILLAGE!

BUT I THOUGHT THAT THOSE SUPERSTITIOUS TRIBES FEARED TO ATTACK WHILE YOUR **DRUM IDOL** STOOD IN THE SACRED CIRCLE, KYULU!

THAT THE TROUBLE! WE LENT DRUM IDOL TO VILLAGE OF KINARA FOR CEREMONIAL DANCE!

I GET IT...THE TRICK IS TO GET THAT IDOL BACK BEFORE THE ENEMY TRIBESMEN HAVE TIME TO GATHER ALL THEIR FORCES TOGETHER! VERY WELL... I'LL TAKE SOME OF YOUR MEN AND START AT ONCE!

BUT REMEMBER ONE THING, CONGO BILL...THE DRUM IDOL **MUST NOT TOUCH GROUND!** TRIBESMEN BELIEVE IT LOSE ALL POWER IF IT DOES!

OKAY... I'LL SEE THAT IT STAYS OFF THE GROUND!

BUT NEARBY, ENEMY EYES AND EARS HAVEN'T MISSED A THING...

HEAR THAT? GO...TAKE MEN... NOT LET CONGO BILL KNOW YOU NEAR... MAKE SURE DRUM IDOL TOUCH GROUND SO IT LOSE ITS POWER TO PROTECT VILLAGE!

I GO!

IN THE SUSPENSEFUL HOURS THAT PASS, CONGO BILL OBTAINS THE PRECIOUS IDOL, AND STARTS BACK AT ONCE...

MAKE SURE YOU CARRY DRUM HIGH UP FROM THE GROUND, CONGO BILL!

YES ..THOSE SUPERSTITIOUS TRIBESMEN FROM THE ENEMY VILLAGES ARE PROBABLY SPYING ON US ALONG THE WAY, HOPING I'LL DROP IT!

BUT, AS THE ACE ADVENTURER WILL SOON LEARN, THE ENEMY TRIBESMEN ARE MORE THAN JUST HOPING...

QUICK... COVER FIT WELL, SO SHARP EYES OF CONGO BILL NOT SEE IT! WHEN HE FALL IN, DRUM IDOL SURE TO HIT GROUND!

THUS, AWHILE LATER, AS CONGO BILL APPROACHES WITH THE WARINESS OF A JUNGLE BEAST

THOSE THORN TREES ARE SO THICK ABOVE THAT THEY BLOT OUT THE LIGHT OF THE SUN!

YOU NOTICE EVERYTHING, CONGO BILL!

SUDDENLY...

LEAPING LIONS! CONGO BILL FALLING INTO PIT! THE IDOL SURE TO HIT GROUND NOW!

BUT EVEN AS HE TOPPLES FORWARD

THE BRANCHES OF THE THORN TREE ABOVE... MY ONLY CHANCE TO KEEP THE IDOL FROM HITTING THE GROUND!

IN MID-AIR, BILL SUMMONS ALL HIS STRENGTH TO HURL THE DRUM UPWARD...

THE IDOL STICKING IN THE TREE!

YES, JANU...THE FOUR-INCH BRAMBLES ON THAT THORN TREE WILL HOLD IT TIGHT UNTIL I PULL IT OFF!

THAT QUICK THINKING, CONGO BILL!

THANKS, JANU. BUT IT TEACHES US TO BE WARY--BECAUSE THAT PIT WAS DELIBERATELY DUG TO TRAP US! HERE, LAKU--YOU HOLD THE DRUM IDOL WHILE I KEEP A SHARP EYE ON OUR SURROUNDINGS!

BUT, UNDISCOURAGED BY THEIR FIRST FAILURE, THE ENEMY TRIBESMEN DEFIANTLY TRY AGAIN...

THAT RIGHT...STRING VINE VERY CLOSE TO GROUND SO CONGO BILL NOT SEE IT!

DO NOT WORRY... THIS TIME HE TRIP FOR SURE AND DROP DRUM IDOL ON GROUND!

SO ONCE AGAIN, CONGO BILL'S PARTY INNOCENTLY WALKS STRAIGHT TOWARD A HIDDEN TRAP...

KEEP YOUR EYES PEELED FOR ANY SUSPICIOUS SIGNS!

I NOT SEE ANYONE, CONGO BILL!

ABRUPTLY...

EEI-I-I

LOOK, CONGO BILL! NATIVE FALLING AND DROPPING IDOL!

AND NO ONE IS CLOSE ENOUGH TO CATCH IT BEFORE IT LANDS!

AGAIN, THE QUICK-WITTED ADVENTURER SPRINGS INTO SPEEDY ACTION...

QUICK... YOUR SPEAR!

AND WITH A MIGHTY FLING...

WHAT GOOD THAT DO, CONGO BILL?

ING!

JUST AN IDEA I SUDDENLY GOT TO KEEP THE DRUM IDOL OFF THE GROUND, JANI!

THEN, AS THE MISSION ENTERS THE FINAL LAP...

WE'VE STILL GOT A HALF MILE TO GO—AND THOSE ENEMY TRIBESMEN MAY DECIDE TO MAKE THE LAST DESPERATE TRY... SO LOOK SHARP! I'LL CARRY THE IDOL THE REST OF THE WAY!

SURE ENOUGH, NEARBY...

BRING MEN... MANY MEN! WE ATTACK PARTY... MAKE THEM DROP IDOL BEFORE IT REACH VILLAGE!

PRESENTLY, FROM ALL QUARTERS, COMES A VERITABLE PAINTED ARMY...

GOOD! WE OUTNUMBER CONGO BILL AND HIS PARTY 100 TO ONE! WE FORCE HIM TO DROP DRUM, IDOL, OR DIE!

AT THIS VERY MOMENT...

HUNDREDS OF TRIBESMEN... AND THEY'RE COMING THIS WAY!

NOT EVEN YOU CAN FIGHT OFF SO MANY, CONGO BILL! WHAT WE DO?

HMM... A CROCODILE--WHICH MEANS THERE'S A RIVER NEARBY! WE MUST REACH THAT HIGH GROUND AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE!

OKAY, CONGO BILL... LET'S GO!

BUT AT THE SAME TIME...

AGAINST SUCH ODDS, HOW CAN CONGO BILL AND HIS HANDFUL OF SUPPORTERS HOPE TO COMPLETE THEIR MISSION?

CLOSER AND CLOSER COME THE ADVANCING ENEMY TREESMEN...

I--I NOT UNDERSTAND ONE THING, CONGO BILL! WHY THEY NOT AFRAID TO ATTACK **US** WHILE **WE** HAVE DRUM IDOL?

BECAUSE THE IDOL IS SUPPOSED TO HAVE POWER ONLY WHEN IT STANDS ON THAT PEDESTAL IN THE SACRED CIRCLE OF THE VILLAGE! I SURE HOPE WE CAN GET IT THERE!

BUT AS THE SPEARMEN DRAW WITHIN RANGE...

TH-THOSE SPEARS GETTING REAL CLOSE, CONGO B--L!

YES. BUT I DON'T THINK THEY'LL GET ANY CLOSER TO US! TURN AROUND, JANU--

CREEPING CATERPILLARS!... THE R..ER!

YES... AND ONCE WE REACH THE OPPOSITE BANK, IT'S ONLY A SHORT HOP TO THE VILLAGE!

NEXT INSTANT

JUST A TIME!

THERE'S NOTHING TO THE SUPERSTITION THAT SAYS THE IDOL MUSTN'T TOUCH **WATER!**

NO--AND THAT HOLLOW DRUM IDOL MAKE A FINE CANOE!

AND SO, SHORTLY AFTER, WITH THE DRUM IDOL REPLACED IN ITS SACRED CIRCLE...

THANK YOU, CONGO B--L-- THE ENEMY WILL NOT DARE ATTACK US NOW! I HOPE YOU NOT HAVE TOO MUCH TROUBLE TO BRING THE DRUM IDOL HERE!

WELL, CHIEF, IT ALL DEPENDS ON WHAT YOU'D CONSIDER TROUBLE!

THE END

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You wrote, requesting a variety of new magazines! We studied your letters, then concluded: "We can't publish them all at one time, but we can offer a series based on the best!"

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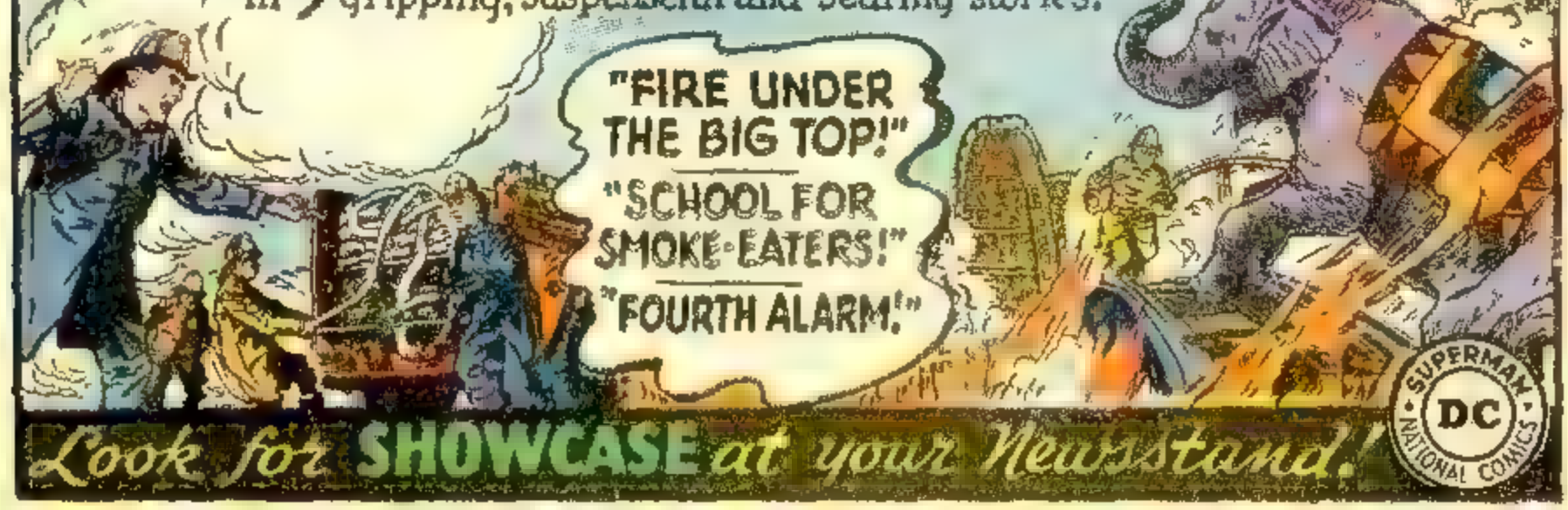

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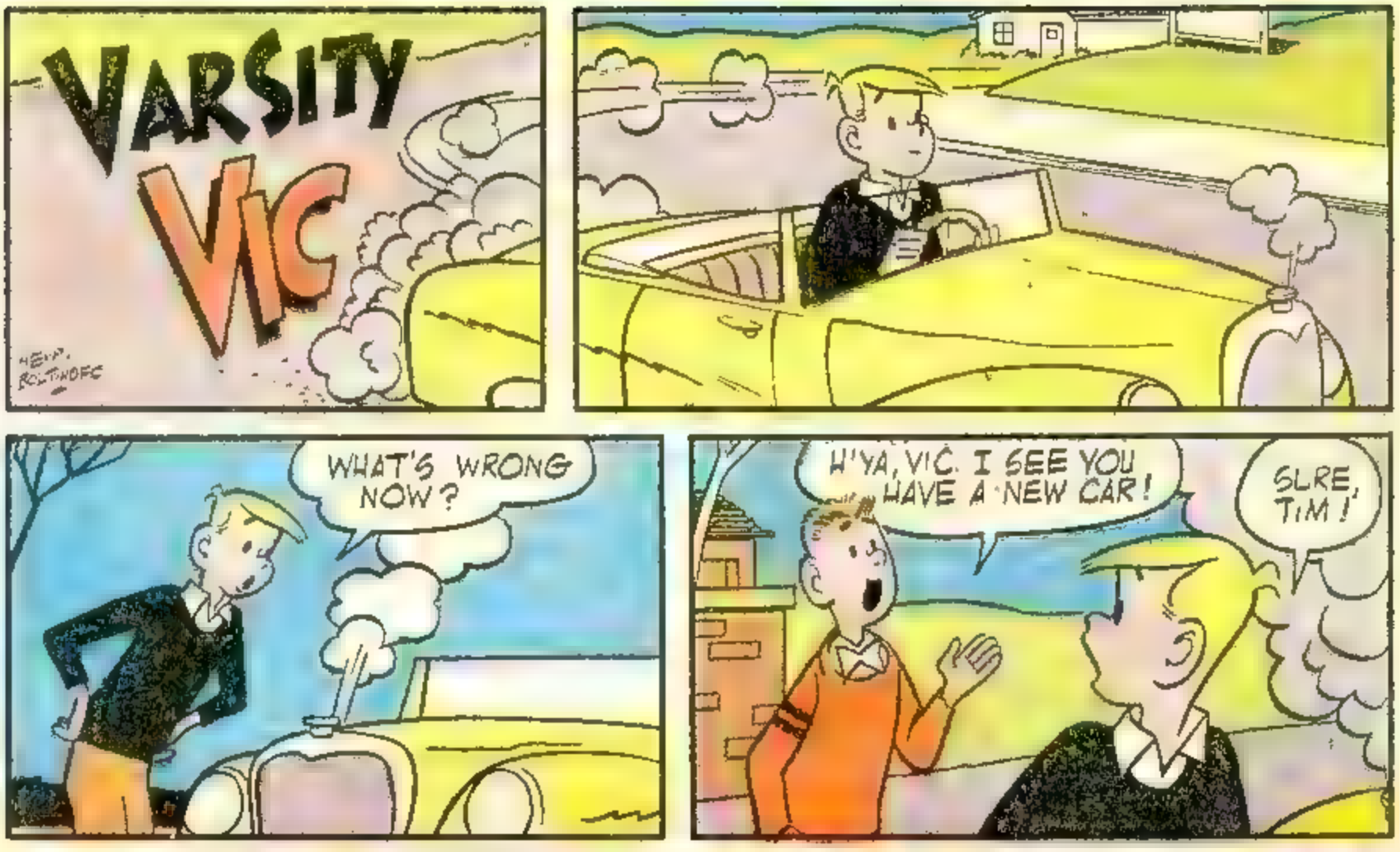

SUPERMEN OF AMERICA

SUPERMAN'S SECRET MESSAGE

(Code Neptune No. 7)

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SUPERMAN, MARCH 1956

c/o ACTION COMICS

480 LEXINGTON AVENUE, N. Y. C. 17, N. Y.

Dear Superman:

Please enroll me as a Member of the SUPERMEN of AMERICA. I enclose 10c to cover cost of mailing. It is understood that I am to receive my Membership Certificate, Button and Superman Code.

NAME.....

STREET ADDRESS.....

CITY.....ZONE.....STATE.....

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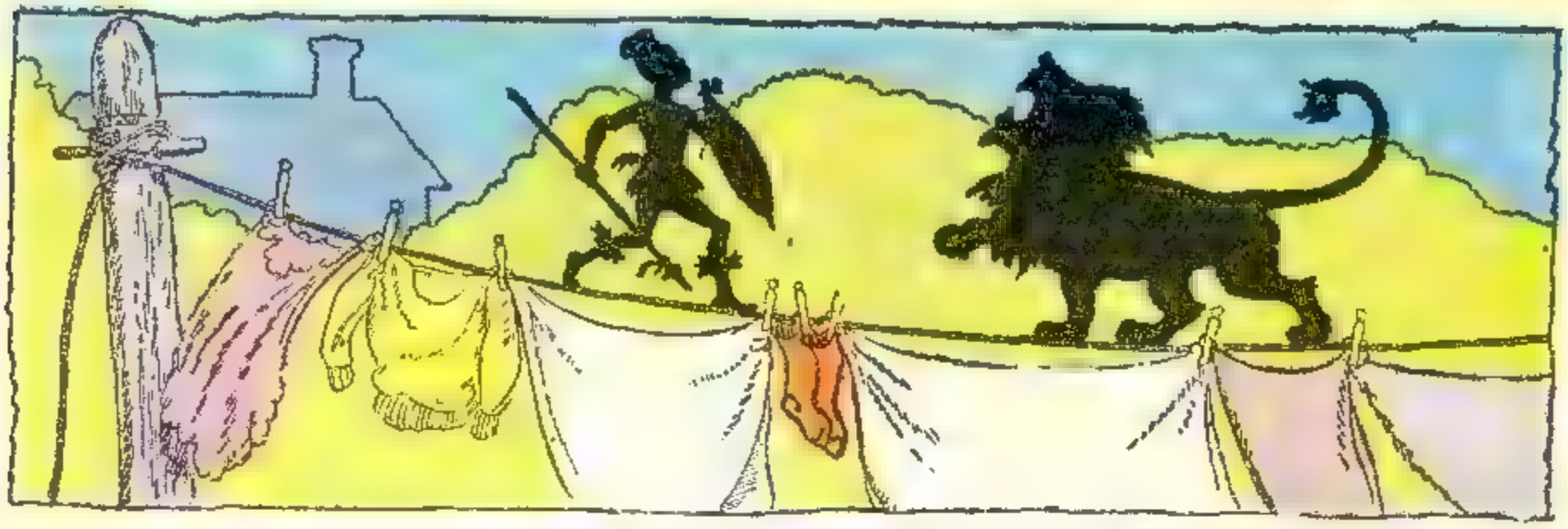

Amaze Your Friends With An Album of Startling Photos You Took

RECENTLY, a well-known magazine published a series of eerie photographs depicting a variety of elves and goblins prancing crazily atop the tall buildings of New York's skyscrapers.

One out-of-this-world character was seen actually taking a giant step from the Chrysler Building to the Empire State Building.

Thousands of letters came pouring in to the offices of the magazine. Most of the writers realized that, somehow, trick photography was involved in the reproduction of the strange illusions. And all wanted to know one thing: "How was it done?"

The answer could have been supplied by many young men and women who are enjoying the pleasures of creating camera tricks. You can do the startling trick above with a simple box camera.

The elves and goblins were nothing more or less than paper cutouts, using black or any dark colored paper. These were pasted on a window pane overlooking the New York skyline. The cameraman then shot right through the window pane, and the developed print produced the illusion of goblins on the rooftops.

Many other remarkable effects can be produced by this same method. One young cameraman pasted cut-outs of big game animals on a clear window pane overlooking a small park. The resulting pictures made it look as if lions, elephants, and giraffes were roaming about in the local park

There is only one point that should be remembered in this trick, and that concerns perspective. Remember that the farther away the background, the smaller objects become. Therefore, the cut-outs must be exactly the right size if realism is desired. You may spoil a couple of rolls of film experimenting, but the end result will be worth the small expense.

Double-exposure is an accident that has caused more than one photographer a headache. But deliberate double-exposure offers wonderful opportunities for tricky photography. This is best done by blocking off the left-hand side of the lens opening with a piece of cardboard, and shooting through the right-

hand side. Then, without moving the film, the right side is blocked off and the photographer shoots through the *left-hand side.*

Interesting effects can also be obtained by covering the top and bottom, respectively. Thus, by first shooting a body of water on the bottom, then reversing the procedure (masking the bottom, and taking a picture through the top of a friend walking) the combined double-exposure will give you a perfect shot of your friend seemingly *walking on water.*

One of the most remarkable shots of this kind ever made was the work of a young photographer owning a camera with a "close-up" lens. This imaginative youth took his camera into the backyard and brought it close to a praying mantis. Since the insect was facing toward the right, our enterprising photographer shot in through the right side of the lens opening.

Then, through the left side, he took a full-length shot of a friend, caught running. The friend was told to look as if he were being pursued.

When this film was developed and printed, it impressed even the photographer who knew it was all a hoax. The picture showed the praying mantis blown up to the size of a human being —and *chasing the photographer's pal.*

Another photographer created a small sensation not long ago when he showed around a startlingly realistic shot of himself in a diving suit opening a chest of gold at the bottom of the sea.

Naturally, his friends suspected a trick. But they couldn't for the life of them guess how it was done. He did it by means of one of the most enjoyable forms of hobby photographing ever devised—*table top photography.*

What is table top photography? It is just what the name implies—photographing scenes created on top of a table. The scenes are in miniature, of course. But close-up shots, blocking out any extraneous object or matter which would reveal their actual size, give them life-size proportions. Here again, it's all a matter of perspective.

For table-top photography, all that is necessary are the camera—any camera—close-up lens, and some imagination.

To produce the shot of himself with the pirate chest of gold at the bottom of the sea, this fellow used the bottom part of an ordinary box of matches. The diving figure was purchased in the local dime store. He carefully inserted a tiny snap of his face inside the helmet, behind the glass window.

The sea scene was painted on a square of clear glass. This included, besides the water, a couple of fish, seaweed, and a number of rocks. The shot was made right through this sea scene to the toy diver and chest. And the result was so realistic that even after explaining how it was done, some people who had seen the photo still wondered where our young trick photographer had really hidden the pirate's treasure.

—Jack Mallory

Tommy TOMORROW

CRIMINALS ARE AMBUSHING ME ALL OVER SPACE! BUT WHY DON'T THEY BLAST ME?

DON'T SHOOT H-M! TOMMY IS WORTH $1,000,000, ALIVE!

IN HIS CAREER AS A PLANETEER IN THE YEAR 2056, COLONEL TOMMY TOMORROW HAS TRACKED DOWN COUNTLESS WANTED MEN IN SPACE! BUT NOW, STRANGELY, THE ROLES ARE REVERSED, AS CRIMINALS PLACE A PRICE ON TOMMY'S HEAD AND DECLARE HIM... THE MOST WANTED MAN IN SPACE

LEAVING PLANETEER HEADQUARTERS ONE DAY, COLONEL TOMMY TOMORROW AND HIS AIDE CAPTAIN BRENT WOOD LOOK OVER A LIST OF WANTED MEN...

THE CHIEF ASSIGNED US TO ROUND UP THESE CRIMINALS WHO BROKE OUT OF THE INTERPLANETARY JAIL LAST WEEK! SOME JOB! IT MAY TAKE US A LONG TIME, TOMMY!

MAYBE NOT, BRENT!

THE ONE I WANT MOST IS THIS CRIME BOSS! HE ALWAYS VOWED HE'D GET ME BECAUSE IT WAS I WHO ARRESTED HIM. NOW THAT HE'S FREE, I WONDER IF HE'LL SEEK REVENGE!

WANTED! METEOR "MURDOCK!

SOON, TOMMY FINDS THAT 'METEOR" MURDOCK IS CARRYING OUT HIS THREAT IN A STRANGE WAY!

JUMPING JUPITER! LOOK, TOMMY-- HE LEFT SIGNS AROUND SPACE, MAKING YOU A "WANTED MAN!"

WANTED! TOMMY TOMORROW ALIVE NOT DEAD! REWARD $1,000,000.00 OFFERED BY "METEOR" MURDOCK

AND OVER THE INTERPLANETARY T.V. NETWORK, AS AN OUTLAW BROADCAST BREAKS IN...

ATTENTION, ALL CRIMINALS! "METEOR" MURDOCK WILL PAY $1,000,000 REWARD FOR THE CAPTURE OF THIS PLANETEER, BUT ONLY **ALIVE!** IF HE IS BROUGHT IN DEAD, NOT ONE CENT WILL BE PAID!

WANTED

AS THEY PASS THE MOON ON WHICH A GIGANTIC IMAGE HAS BEEN CAST...

GOSH, TOMMY! MURDOCK HAS PLASTERED HIS NOTICE ALL OVER! EVERY CROOK THAT ESCAPED WILL BE AFTER YOU TO COLLECT THAT REWARD! BUT WHY DOES HE WANT YOU **ALIVE?**

WANTED ALIVE

PLANETEER NUMBER G7-244

DESCRIPTION: TALL, MUSCULAR, DANGEROUS

REWARD FOR CAPTURE $1,000,000.00

THE SPACE UNDERWORLD IS PUZZLED, TOO...

WHY DOES HE WANT TOMMY ALIVE? WELL, WHO CARES? I'M GONNA TRACK HIM DOWN AND BE RICH!

THIS LEAFLET GOOD FOR $1,000,000 IF YOU BRING IN TOMMY TOMORROW TO "METEOR" MURDOCK ALIVE

AND FOR ONCE IN HIS LIFE, INSTEAD OF BEING THE HUNTER, TOMMY BECOMES THE HUNTED!

I'LL AMBUSH TOMMY TOMORROW!

LOOK OUT, TOMMY! A CROOK'S SHIP IS WAITING IN AMBUSH, DISGUISED AS A METEOR! REVERSE YOUR JETS!

BUT TO BRENT'S SURPRISE, TOMMY KEEPS ON

BUT--BUT HE'LL SHOOT US DOWN LIKE A SITTING DUCK!

NO HE WON'T, BRENT! REMEMBER--HE HAS TO CAPTURE ME ***ALIVE*** TO GET THE REWARD! HE WON'T DARE FIRE!

PRESENTLY, THE OUTLAW TRIES ANOTHER TRAP..

CAN'T FIRE! GOT TO TAKE TOMMY ALIVE! THIS STEEL NET WILL BAG HIS SHIP!.

NOW TOMMY REVERSES HIS ROCKETS...

THAT BLASTS HIS NET BACK AROUND HIS ***OWN*** SHIP!

HA! INSTEAD OF HIM NABBING ***YOU***, TOMMY, WE NABBED ONE OF THE ESCAPED JAIL-BIRDS! SAVED US THE TROUBLE OF HUNTING HIM DOWN!

WANTED!

LATER, AS TOMMY SEEKS ANOTHER ESCAPED PRISONER ON HIS ASTEROID HIDEOUT...

I'LL GO ALONE, BRENT! HE WOULD SHOOT AT YOU--BUT I'M IMMUNE TO HIS GUN, SINCE HE'LL WANT ME ALIVE!

BUT WHEN TOMMY SETS FOOT ON THE ASTEROID, HE FALLS VICTIM TO A CUNNING TRAP..

HE CAUGHT ME LIKE AN ANIMAL!

OMIGOSH! A HUNGRY MONSTER CHARGING AT TOMMY!

AND WHERE BEFORE THE CRIMINAL WOULD HAVE LAUGHED AT TOMMY'S DANGER, HE NOW SAVES THE PLANETEER!

THAT MONSTER WON'T HARM A HAIR OF YOUR HEAD, TOMMY! YOU'RE WORTH A MILLION TO ME--***ALIVE!***

THANKS! THAT GAVE ME TIME TO FREE MYSELF AND CAPTURE YOU! ANOTHER ESCAPED CONVICT GOES BACK BEHIND BARS--. THANKS TO MURDOCK!

LATER, WHEN ANOTHER ESCAPED CONVICT SURPRISES TOMMY...

I'LL RAM YOU WITH MY ROCKET "HORSE" AND KNOCK YOU DOWN!

TOMMY! ARE YOU--YOU HURT? OH, IF I KILLED YOU, I'LL NEVER FORGIVE MYSELF! TOMMY--PLEASE SPEAK TO ME!

SURE, I'LL SPEAK TO YOU--WITH MY FIST! I WAS ONLY PLAYING POSSUM! I KNEW YOU WOULD BE ALARMED AND LAY ASIDE YOUR RAY-GUN IF I PRETENDED TO BE DEAD--THE LAST THING YOU WANTED!

WOW! YOU'RE NABBING MORE CROOKS THIS WAY THAN EVER BEFORE! BUT THE BIG MYSTERY IS--WHY DOES "METEOR" MURDOCK WANT YOU ***ALIVE?***

WHO KNOWS, BRENT? BUT HE'S DOING ME A GOOD TURN, LURING CROOKS RIGHT INTO MY HANDS!

WANTED

ONLY A FEW OF THOSE ESCAPED JAILBIRDS ARE LEFT NOW, TOMMY--IN THAT ***CRIME FORT***, WHICH HELD OFF ATTACKING PLANETEER SHIPS!

BUT I CAN RAID IT SINGLE-HANDED, BRENT! THEY WON'T DARE FIRE A SHOT AT ME! WATCH ME TAUNT THEM!

ATTENTION, CRIMINALS! TOMMY TOMORROW COMING!

I'LL SHOOT THE FIRST MAN WHO SHOOTS HIM! HE'S WORTH HIS WEIGHT IN GOLD, BUT ONLY ALIVE!

RUSH HIM! HE CAN'T SHOOT US BOTH!

HMM! I CAN'T SHOOT UNARMED CRIMINALS!

SUPPOSE I SWING THE CANNON AND PUT YOU ON ICE IN HANDCUFFS, WHILE I GET THE OTHERS?

AS TOMMY RUNS THE OTHER MEN DOWN, ONE BY ONE, IN THE FORT...

LOOK OUT, TOMMY! DON'T STEP ON THAT SECRET HIGH-VOLTAGE PLATE, WHICH WE PLANTED HERE TO GET OTHER PLANETEERS!

THANKS FOR THE WARNING! YOUR EAGERNESS TO KEEP ME ALIVE GETS **YOU** CAPTURED, TOO!

WHEN TOMMY REACHES THE FINAL HAZARD OF THE **CRIME FORT**...

I AM A ROBOT GUARD, WITH INSTRUCTIONS TO CRUSH ANY HUMAN WEAKLING IN A PLANETEER UNIFORM! HA, HA!

MY--MY RAY-GUN CAN'T STOP THAT STEEL GIANT!

NO--NO! THE ROBOT MUSTN'T HARM YOU, TOMMY! THERE!.. I TURNED OFF HIS REMOTE-CONTROL SWITCH, RENDERING HIM POWERLESS!

THANKS! I KNEW YOU WOULD! I WASN'T WORRIED A BIT!

AFTER A BRIEF MAN-TO-MAN FIGHT...

TRYING FOR THAT MILLION "REWARD" OF MURDOCK'S BLINDED ALL OF YOU WITH GREED, RESULTING IN YOUR EASY CAPTURE!

FINALLY, AT THE INTERPLANETARY JAIL...

WELL, TOMMY, EVERY MAN WHO TOOK PART IN THAT JAILBREAK HAS NOW BEEN RECAPTURED-- ALL EXCEPT "METEOR" MURDOCK HIMSELF!

WRONG, BRENT! HE WAS BEHIND BARS ALL THE TIME! I'LL SHOW YOU!

SIZZLING COMETS! "METEOR" MURDOCK!

HE NEVER ESCAPED IN THE FIRST PLACE! HE WAS NABBED TRYING TO BREAK OUT AND PLACED IN SOLITARY CONFINEMENT-- WHERE NO OTHER CRIMINALS WOULD SEE HIM! THEY THOUGHT HE GOT AWAY, TOO!

SOLITARY CELL

THE CHIEF OF PLANETEERS ARRIVES, EXPLAINING TO STARTLED BRENT WOOD...

BUT FEARING THE PLAN MIGHT LEAK OUT, TOMMY, THE WARDEN AND MYSELF AGREED TO KEEP IT TOP-SECRET!

I COULDN'T EVEN TELL YOU THE TRUTH, BRENT!

BUT-- BUT HOW COULD MURDOCK OFFER THAT REWARD FOR TOMMY'S CAPTURE?

HE DIDN'T! WE OFFERED IT, IN HIS NAME! YOU SEE, TOMMY AND I SECRETLY ARRANGED THIS WHOLE HOAX WITH THE WARDEN-- TO LURE GREEDY CRIMINALS INTO TRYING TO WIN THE FALSE "REWARD"!

LATER...

NOW I CAN TEAR DOWN ALL THESE SIGNS I PLANTED MYSELF!

BRILLIANT, TOMMY! BY PRETENDING MURDOCK HAD OFFERED A "REWARD" FOR YOUR CAPTURE, IT TRICKED ALL THOSE ESCAPED JAILBIRDS INTO COMING TO YOU! AND, BECAUSE THEY WANTED TO CAPTURE YOU ALIVE, YOUR LIFE WAS NEVER IN DANGER FOR ONE MOMENT!

WANTED TOMMY

THE END

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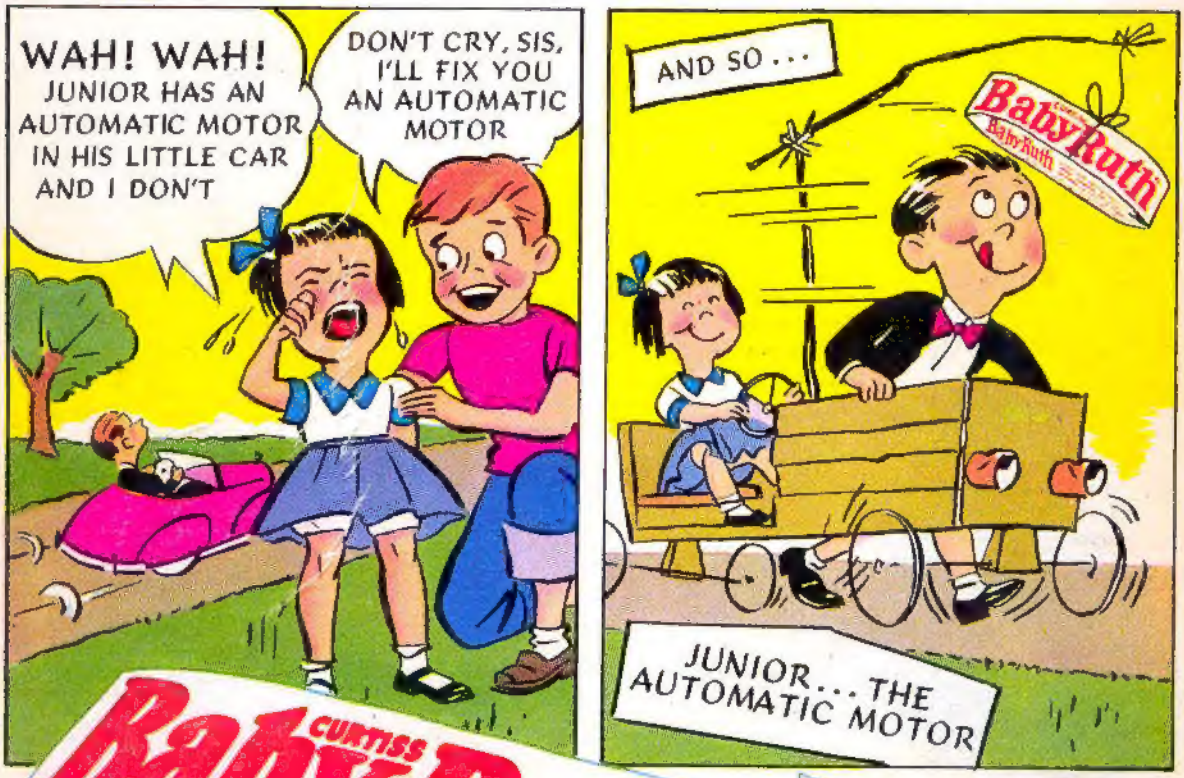

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